Complaints against subsidiary of NTC in Gujarat

662. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received serious complaints from Members of Parliament and other quarters about the malfunctioning of the NTC subsidiary in the Gujarat; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the then General Manager of Jupiter Mills of NTC was found guilty for some irregularities in the purchase of coal worth Rs. 80 lakhs and was just punished by issuance of a warning and whether Government have decided to reconsider this warning and enhance the punishment.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) and (b) Irregularities regarding the violation of guidlines in the transportation of coal by road and procurement of coal in Jupiter Mills was investigated. After departmental proceedings, the minor penalty of censure was imposed on the General Manager and three others.

Government have received serious complaints which cover, *inter alia*, the irregular deposit of Rs. 75 lakhs and irregularities in sales and purchases.

The Government policy is to award punishment commensurate with the proven guilt.

Export of cotton

663. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the major handicaps for cotton exports being faced by Government this year in the world market; and

(b) whether in view of the good cotton crop and availability of surplus cotton in the country to the tune of 20 lakh bales what is the new device being worked out by Government for more cotton exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) The exporting agencies have been experiencing difficulty in export of cotton due to easy supply position of cotton in the World Market, during the current cotton year. There is stiff competition from China, Pakistan, Australia, U.S.A., and West Africa in export of cotton.

(b) Government of India have released 10,77,000 bales of cotton for export during the current cotton seasons and unlike in past, export Quota has also been released in favour of Private trade. With a view to increasing export of cotton, Government of India have done away with the condition of minimum export prices for export of cotton. Government of India have announced liberalised long term policy for export of cotton yarn.

Restructuring of NTC and its subsidiaries

664. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any suggestions for restructuring management of NTC and its subsidiaries at vertical and horizontal levels; and

(b) whether a suggestion for separating the post of Chairman and Managing Director at Central and Subsidiary levels have been accepted; if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) Suggestions regarding the organisational structure and better management of NTC are received from time to time.